

## ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

HIS LABORIOUS BOYHOOD.

A CRAVING FOR BOOKS—A GOOD SON AND GEN-

THE GIANT.

Accompanying the opening pages of Messrs. Nicolay and Hay's "Abraham Lincoln" in the forthcoming Century is a fine portrait of the great President, admirably engraved by T. Johnson from an original negative of 1860. The first illustrations indicate that this part of the work will be worthy of the text. How valuable that text is to be one may find revealed in this first notable paper as well as in the annual Tribune.

To write the life of this great American in such a way as to do justice to the relations in the times in which he lived, the stupendous labors he controlled, the remarkable men by whom he was surrounded, has been the task of many writers who have pursued their studies. We can say nothing of the result of our labor; only those who have been similarly employed can appreciate the use of independent researches which we have made. We can only assure you that we can only claim for our work that we have devoted to it sixteen years of almost untiring assiduity, and that we believe it to be a good work. We can also assure you that we have rejected no authentic facts essential to a candid story; that we have had no theory to support, nor any desire to write a sufficiently full and absolutely honest history of a great man and a great nation, and all the difficulties of great men and nations which we have fallen into such errors and inaccuracies as are unavoidable in so large a work, we have endeavored to subserve. We have aimed to write a history which will be a credit to all in these that are dictated by mere or merest.

The following paragraphs from advance sheets of the magazine give some taste of the quality of this eagerly anticipated work:

## THE YOUTH FOR EDUCATION.

Such a woman as Sarah Bush could not be careless of so important a master as the education of her children, and they made the best use of the scanty opportunities the neighborhood offered. She taught them to read, and when she had one of these rare bits of autobiography he left behind him, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods. This was the first book he ever read, and it was never required of a teacher beyond "readin', writin' and cipherin' in the Rule of Three." It is strange to me to think that such a naive and innocent work as this has been fallen into such errors and inaccuracies as are unavoidable in so large a work, we have endeavored to subserve. We have aimed to write a history which will be a credit to all in these that are dictated by mere or merest.

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## LETTER TO CARDINAL MANNING

[Archbishop of Westminster, on his RECENT EXPRESSION OF CONFIDENCE IN MR. PARVELL and of his ADVICE TO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN THE MATTER OF IRISH EDUCATION.]

By T. O'DONOHUE, late Member for Tralee, London, Eng. WM. RIDGWAY, 169 Piccadilly

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THE BOOKS WE READ.

But it is questionable whether he lost anything by being deprived of the ministrations of the backwoods deacons. When his talents became the chief pleasure of his life, in all the intervals of his work—in which he never took delight well enough that he was born for something better than that—he read, wrote, and ciphered without books. His reading was the target of his ambition. He used to cipher as a means of rising in the world, was innate in him, and the more he learned, the more he wanted to learn. He learned to cipher certainly from his mother, who had sacrificed her life to the pure desire to know the world. All the time he was learning to cipher, he used to better his condition. He learned his letters so that he might read, and he used to go to school to learn outside of his school, because there were no schools in the right for which he belonged. 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